

REMARKS

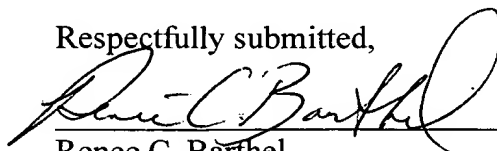
Applicants note and appreciate the indication that claim 42 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, applicants have rewritten independent claims 37, 45 and 46 to include the subject matter of claim 42 and intervening claims 38 and 41. Independent claims 37, 45 and 46 are now respectfully believed to be in allowable form. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

As to the Section 112 rejection of claims 43 and 44, this rejection is respectfully believed to have been addressed by the amendment to claim 37. Amended claim 37 recites the cut out feature of claims 43 and 44 so as to render sufficient antecedent basis to the cut out features of claims 43 and 44. Therefore, this rejection is believed to be already addressed by the amendment made to claim 37.

Finally, as to the drawings, it is respectfully submitted that the features in claim 40 are already illustrated in the drawings. In particular, the Office Action refers to “pressed acceptance slots for acceptance of the securing elements” in claim 40 as not being shown in the drawings. In fact, the “pressed acceptance slots” in claim 40 are shown by the element numbered as “20” in Fig. 1 and other figures. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no drawing corrections are necessary and the objection as to the drawings should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully believed that the above application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Renee C. Barthel", is written over a horizontal line.

Renee C. Barthel
Registration No. 48,356

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.,
200 West Adams Street
Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
Phone: (312) 236-8500